

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

5

1. (Original) A method of storing a respiring biological material wherein the respiring biological material is stored in a packaging atmosphere within a sealed container which

(a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), and

10

(b) comprises an auxiliary component comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 which has at least one of the following characteristics

15

(a) the auxiliary component has an R ratio of at least 1.5;

(b) the auxiliary component has a  $P_{10}$  ratio of at least 1.3;

(c) the auxiliary component comprises an atmosphere control member (ACM) comprising a microporous film having a coating of the second polymeric composition ~~polymer~~ thereon;

20

(d) the auxiliary component is part of a laminate comprising a first layer and composed of the HPC and a second layer composed of the second polymeric composition, the second layer having one or more of the following characteristics

(i) it is less 10 micron thick,

25

(ii) it is composed of a polyolefin,

(iii) it is part of a three-layer laminate and is sandwiched between the first layer and a third layer, and

(iv) it has an MVTR of 50 to 250.

30 3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the HPC is in the form of a film having a window therein, and the auxiliary component covers the window.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the container comprises at least one first discrete section composed of the HPC and at least one second discrete section composed of the second polymeric composition.

5

5. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the HPC provides at least 50 % of the interior surface of sealed container.

6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the packaging

10 atmosphere has an oxygen content of 2-5% and a carbon dioxide content of 5-10%.

7. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the HPC composition comprises a polyamide.

15 8. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein a film consisting of the HPC, when immersed in water at 23°C, has an equilibrium water content of at least 6.0 % by weight based on the dry weight of the composition.

20 9. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein a film consisting of the HPC, when exposed at 23°C to an atmosphere having a relative humidity of 50%, has an equilibrium water content of at least 2.4%, by weight, based on the dry weight of the composition.

25 10. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the respiring biological material is bananas.

11. (Previously presented) A sealable container which, when sealed around a respiring biological material, is suitable for use in the method of claim 1 and which

30 (a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), and

(b) comprises an auxiliary component comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

5 12. (Previously presented) A sealed container which is suitable for use in the method of claim 1 and which

(a) has an interior surface at least part of which is composed of a hydrophilic polymer composition (HPC), and

10 (b) comprises an auxiliary component comprising a second polymeric composition (i) which is not an HPC, and (ii) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere.

13-14. Canceled.

15 15. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the HPC comprises polylactic acid.

16-18. Canceled.

20 19. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon.

25 20. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a polyester film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon, the non-HPC polymeric material comprising a side chain crystalline polymer.

30

21. (New) A sealable container according to claim 11 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon.

22. (New) A sealable container according to claim 11 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon, the non-HPC polymeric material comprising a side chain crystalline polymer.

23. (New) A sealable container according to claim 11 wherein (1) the HPC is in the form of a polyester film having a window therein, and (2) the auxiliary component (i) covers the window, and (ii) is an atmosphere control member having a R ratio of at least 1.5 and comprising a microporous film having a coating of the non-HPC polymeric material thereon.

24. (New)) A method of storing a respiring biological material wherein the respiring biological material is stored in a packaging atmosphere within a sealed container which consists essentially of (1) a polyester film having a window therein and (2) an auxiliary component which covers the window;

the polyester film, when immersed in water at 23°C, having an equilibrium water content of at least 4.0%, based on the dry weight of the film; and

the auxiliary component being an atmosphere control member (i) through which pass oxygen and carbon dioxide entering or leaving the packaging atmosphere, (ii) which has an R ratio of at least 1.5, and (iii) which comprises a microporous film having a coating of a non-HPC polymeric material thereon.

25. (New) A method according to claim 24 wherein the non-HPC polymeric material comprises a side chain crystalline polymer.